

“Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana”

European Commission Programme on Tropical Forests and other Forests in Developing Countries

Fourth District Level Multi Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting Minutes

Kade (DLMSD 4)

Date: 9th March, 2011

Venue: Tekyiman Community Shed



EU Chainsaw Project



This project is financed by the European Union

Members Present

<u>Name</u>	<u>Stakeholder Group</u>
1. Seth Queney	Chainsaw Operator, Pramkese
2. Samuel O. Kwarteng	FSD, Kade
3. Benjamin	Chainsaw Operator, Tekyiman
4. J.B. Antwi	Machine Owner, Pramkese
5. Kweku Gyemah	Machine Owner, Tekyiman
6. Alhaji Awal	Machine Dealer, Tekyiman
7. Joseph Hena	Chainsaw Operator, Tekyiman
8. Isaac O. Birikorang	Chainsaw Operator, Tekyiman
9. John Coffie	Chainsaw Operator, Pramkese
10. Sampson Aklo	Customer Service Officer(FSD),Kade
11. P.K.Nkum	Farmer, Pramkese
12. Yaw Agyei	Machine Owner, Tekyiman
13. Francis Ahiakpo	FSD, Kade
14. Ofori Collins	Machine Owner, Akokoaso
15. Eric Kofi Baisey	Farmer, Pramkese
16. John Asare	Farmer, Tekyiman
17. Samuel Agyei	Farmer, Tekyiman
18. Shaibu Hamidu	Machine Owner, Pramkese
19. Joseph Anning	MOFA, Kade
20. Kofi Boadi	CFC, Akokoaso
21. Daniel Obosu	CFC, Akokoaso
22. Richard Eshun	Carpenter, Kade
23. Awittor Mavis	Stool Lands, Kade
24. Isaac Anoba	Chainsaw Operator, Tekyiman
25. Selasie Owusu	Machine Owner, Tekyiman
26. Samuel Otu Adjei	Ghana National Fire Service, Kade
27. Emmanuel Amoh	Traditional Authority, Tekyiman
28. Nana Amoa Bosompim II	Traditional Authority, Subi
29. Alex A. Agyei	Traditional Authority, Tekyiman
30. Okyeame Kwame Bredu	Traditional Authority, Pramkese
31. Robert Cobbinah	FSD, Kade
32. Musah Alhassan	Lumber Transporter, Tekyiman
33. Eric Twum	Farmer, Supi
34. Kennedy Djampo	Machine Owner, Supi
35. Kwesi Badu	Machine Owner, Pramkese
36. Richard Gyan	Machine Owner, Pramkese
37. Isaac Adjei	Lumber Dealer, Adonkrono
38. Joseph Mfum	Farmer, Adonkrono
39. Twum Sampson	Farmer, Kade

Project Team

1. William Koranteng	CFW, Akyem Kade
2. Emmanuel Fosu	Project Assistant
3. Jane Aggrey	Communication Officer

Agenda

The agreed agenda for the meeting were:

- reading and acceptance of previous minutes
- Outcome of national MSD 4 and consensus meeting with TIDD
- Presentation on community activities
- i. Selected communities
- ii. Selected institutions

Acronyms

CBA	Cost Benefit Analysis
CFC	Community Forest Committee
CFW	Community Forestry Worker
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FC	Forestry Commission
FSD	Forest Service Division
GTMO	Ghana Timber Millers Organisation
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
MTS	Modified Tuangya System
PA	Project Assistant
TIDD	Timber Industry Development Division

Proceedings	Action
<p>1.0 Opening The CFW called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Mr. Selasie Owusu, a machine owner prayed for God's guidance throughout the meeting.</p> <p>2.0 Introduction The CFW introduced the project team, which was followed by self introduction of stakeholders present. The meeting was chaired by Nana Amoah Bosompim II, Chief of Subi and facilitated by Mr William Koranteng, the CFW.</p> <p>3.0 Chairman's Address The chairman said the Government has in mind plans to manage Ghana's forest sustainably to the benefit of all stakeholders. However, our actions and inactions fall short of the expected, of which chainsaw milling is a major factor. The project as known by all stakeholders has the MSD, a mechanism being used to find a lasting solution to the chainsaw milling problem, to secure legal lumber on the domestic market. He advised members to participate fully in the MSD.</p> <p>3.0 Reading and Acceptance of Previous Minutes The minutes were distributed to members present and the CFW read it out. No corrections were made. Mr Samuel Adjei of Ghana National Service moved for the acceptance of the minutes and was seconded by Kofi Boadi, a CFC member from Akyem Akokoaso.</p> <p>4.0 Reports from National MSD 4 and Joint MSD Meetings The CFW updated members on MSD 4 and the joint meeting with TIDD. He said these meetings were significant milestone to the project, because the following important issues were discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of the TIDD as part of the MSD process	

- Presentation on the logosol
- The CBA of the other options alongside option 2
- Definition of logosol
- Validation of the chosen option(2) as a policy direction to supply domestic lumber

On the joint MSD meeting, the CFW stated that, the project is collaborating with the TIDD in its process to seek solution to the supply of legal lumber to the domestic market. He said the following were the key issues discussed at the meeting.

- The need to get the formal timber industry on board the MSD process because of their stake and power in chainsaw milling.
- The two processes should educate their stakeholders on resource sustenance more than resource utilisation.
- Non of the processes support free-hand chainsaw milling
- Chainsaw operators have to be considered in the use of mobile mills as a way to supply legal lumber to the domestic market.

The PA added that the project and TIDD were to meet in December 2010 to strategise on plans to move the process forward and get the preferred policy direction to policy makers. But GTMO raised a number of concerns to frustrate the process and as such the meeting was called off. However, the TIDD and the project are finding means of addressing the concerns raised by the industry in order to get GTMO onboard.

5.0 Questions and Comments

- Will the logosol replace the chainsaw machine completely?
Resp. Freehand chainsaw is and will be banned completely, but the logosol is the existing chainsaw machine plus some attachments, which makes the recovery rate more efficient.
- Will the government give us loans to buy logosols or sell to us on credit?
Resp. It is not very likely, because the logosol is not so expensive. However, the government may subsidise the cost of training on how to use the equipment. Also, forming cooperatives to join resources will be necessary to make operations more economical.
- Is the logosol available on the market? **Resp.** Husquarna is a company in Ghana that sells logosol and will also be responsible for the training.
- In case the process goes through and artisanal millers are allowed to apply for concessions, will the cost involved not be so high to scare off artisanal millers?
Resp. The government and for that matter the FC will not do anything to scare off stakeholders who are doing the right thing. May be artisanal millers may rather get some *cost concession* because they will supply to the domestic market.

6.0 Community Activites

The PA outlined the essence of community activities and how crucial it is to the project. He said, because most of the primary stakeholders (chainsaw operators and carriers) are likely to lose their jobs, there is the need to find other suitable sources of livelihood which will not necessarily be forest dependent. This, he said, led to a survey for alternative livelihoods that would be preferred and sustainable in relation to their districts and communities. Again some communities were also selected as pilot communities as well as institutions which could collaborate with the project to train and educate stakeholders in selected alternative livelihoods.

6.1 Selection of Communities and Collaborative Institutions

William Koranteng, the CFW explain to members the criteria used to select Tekyiman and Pramkese as pilot communities for implementing alternative livelihoods. He said Tekyiman was selected because of the existence of a community forest which could be used for logosol training. For Pramkese, apart from being a chainsaw prone community other factors as closeness to political district were also considered.

6.2 Presentation on livelihood Survey

Jane Aggrey presented the results of the livelihood survey which covered the:

- extent of stakeholder dependency on chainsaw milling for livelihood,
- perceptions on conflict, and,
- preferred alternative livelihood.

The selected alternative livelihoods were poultry farming, cash crop farming (oil palm, citrus and cocoa), livestock farming, MTS, vegetable farming, mushroom farming.

6.3 Collaborating Institutions

The CFW listed possible collaborative institutions in the district and together with the stakeholders selected those relevant to the adoption of selected alternative livelihoods.

The selected institutions were Forest Services Division, EPA, Ghana National Fire Service, District Assembly, Traditional Authorities, Chainsaw Operators and Lumber Dealers,

7.0 Date for Next Meeting

The CFW announced that the date for the next meeting will be communicated to stakeholders at the appropriate time.

8.1 Closing

The Chairman thanked members for their presence and contributions. He asked members to make sure that their activities should be that which will help the government to manage the forest sustainably for the benefit of all mankind.

The meeting formally ended at 3:04 pm after a prayer by Kwesi Badu, a machine owner from Pramkese.

Signed:

Emmanuel Fosu(PA) – Recorder

Signed:

William Koranteng – *for* Chairman